

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 L-02

TAR-01 AGR-05 /059 W

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R 161728Z DEC 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7999

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 163

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 9937

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, IR

SUBJECT: EC TRADE AGREEMENT WITH IRAN - STATUS REPORT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 8851

1. A RELIABLE SOURCE IN ONE OF THE PERMANENT DELEGATIONS HAS INFORMED US OF THE STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY'S DELIBERATIONS ABOUT ITS RELATIONS WITH IRAN. THE CONCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12 (REFTEL) REFERRED THE MATTER TO THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER). THE COREPER DISCUSSED IT ONCE AND REFERRED IT TO THE SPECIAL GROUP ON COMMERCIAL POLICY, WHICH DREW UP A SHORT REPORT OF THE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES AND REFERRED THE SUBJECT BACK TO THE COREPER. LAST WEEK THE COREPER TOOK ONE FURTHER LOOK AT THE ISSUE AND SENT IT AGAIN TO A WORKING GROUP FOR FURTHER STUDY. THE WORKING GROUP WILL PROBABLY DISCUSS IRAN IN MID-JANUARY.

2. OUR SOURCE STATES THAT AT EACH OF THESE MEETINGS THE PATTERN OF DISCUSSION HAS BEEN SIMILAR WITH THE DANES TAKING A STRONG POSITION THAT THE IRANIAN S WANT A TWO-WAY FREE TRADE AREA AGREEMENT AND DENMARK SUPPORTS THEM. THE GERMANS MENTION THEIR OWN
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SCHEME FOR ZERO DUTIES ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, BUT THEY ARE

NOT NEARLY SO FORWARD AS THE DANES. NONE OF THE OTHER
MEMBER STATES SEEMS TO BE WILLING TO INSIST THAT THE DANES
DEOP THE IDEA, AND THEY COUCH THEIT RETICENCE BEHIND GENTLE
PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS.

3. OUR SOURCE SAYS THAT SINCE NONE OF THE MEMBER STATES IS
PUTTING UP A VERY STRONG FIGHT AGAINST THE DANES HE RECOMMENDS
THE UNITED STATES MAKE ONE MORE
APPROACH TO THE DANES TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION AND THE REASON
FOR OUR OBJECTIONS TO A PREFERENTIAL EC/IRANIAN AGREEMENT.
OUR SOURCE RECOMMENDS THAT WE ALSO MAKE THE ISSUES CLEAR TO
THE IRISH WHO WILL BE IN THE PRESIDENCY NEXT YEAR AND UNDER
WHOSE CHAIRMANSHIP THE DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE.
GREENWALD

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